

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-14, 16, 17, 19-28, 30, 31, 33-35, 38-44, 46-50, 52-55, 57-60, 65, 67, 68, 73, 79, 80, 83, and 86 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 11, 12, 19, and 53-55 are amended into independent form and claims 36 and 37 are canceled. Additionally, by this Amendment, the specification and abstract are amended. No new matter is added.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-9, 13, 14, 16, 17, 20-28, 30, 31, 33-35, 38-44, 46-50, 52, 60, 65, 67, 68, 73, 79, 80, 83, and 86 are allowed.

Applicants also thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 53-55, 57 and 59 contain allowable subject matter.

I. Objections to the Specification and Drawings

The Office Action objects to the specification for alleged informalities. By this Amendment, the specification has been amended to correct these informalities. As such, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

The Office Action also objects to the drawings for failing to show gradient α . By this Amendment, the specification has been amended to obviate this objection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

Finally, the Office Action objects to the Abstract as containing more than 150 words. The Abstract has been amended to below 150 words. As such, withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract is respectfully requested.

II. Rejections and Objections to the Claims

Claims 11, 12 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being allegedly indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 11, 12 and 19 have been amended to replace the phrase "wedge-like" with the word "wedge-shaped." Thus, claims 11, 12 and 19 no longer contain the allegedly indefinite

word "like." As such, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 11, 12 and 19 is respectfully requested.

Claims 36 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Handley et al. Claims 36 and 37 have been canceled. Thus, rendering this rejection moot.

Finally, the Office Action objects to claims 53-55 as being allowable other than depending from a rejected base claim. Claims 53-55 have been amended into independent form. As such, claims 53-55 and claims 57-59, which are dependent on claims 53-55 are now in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:MKW/jfb

Attachment:
Substitute Abstract

Date: September 30, 2009

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